AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A cyclic carbonate-containing polymeric compound consisting of a polymeric compound represented by formula (I):

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
CH_3 & CH_2 - CH_2 -$$

wherein p, q, and r independently represent the molar composition ratio of each monomer unit: p is a number over 0; q and r are each a number not smaller than 0; and the sum of p, q, and r is 1.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for producing the cyclic carbonate-containing polymeric compound according to claim 1, comprising:

deproteinizing natural rubber;

epoxidizing the deproteinized natural rubber;

liquefying the deproteinized natural rubber or the epoxidized deproteinized natural rubber via depolymerization; and

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allowing the <u>liquid</u> epoxidized deproteinized natural rubber to react with supercritical carbon dioxide.

- 3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the step of allowing the <u>liquid</u> epoxidized deproteinized natural rubber to react with supercritical carbon dioxide is carried out in the presence of a polar organic solvent and/or an ionic liquid.
- 4. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein the polar organic solvent is at least one member selected from the group consisting of N,N-dimethylformamide, N,N-diethylformamide, N,N-diethylacetamide, and N-methylpyrrolidone.
- 5. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein the ionic liquid is at least one member selected from the group consisting of 3-methyl-1-octylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate, 1-hexyl-3-methylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate, 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate, 1-trifluoromethylimidazolium tetrafluorophosphate, and 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium trifluoromethanesulfate.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the step of allowing the <u>liquid</u> epoxidized deproteinized natural rubber to react with supercritical carbon dioxide is carried out at a reaction temperature between 50° C. and 200° C.

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- 7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the step of allowing the <u>liquid</u> epoxidized deproteinized natural rubber to react with supercritical carbon dioxide is carried out at a supercritical carbon dioxide pressure of between 5 MPa and 20 MPa.
- 8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the step of allowing the <u>liquid</u> epoxidized deproteinized natural rubber to react with supercritical carbon dioxide is carried out for 0.5 hour to 20 hours.
 - 9. (Cancelled).